



WS 05

mmWave Train-to-Train Communications for Next Generation Railways

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The 48th European Microwave Conference



The 13th European Microwave Integrated Circuits Conference



The 15th European Radar Conference

New Railway Applications

Current situation in road traffic:



- Very efficient use of roads
- 75% of freight, 82% of passengers
- Many accidents, traffic jams, less energy efficient

Current situation in railways:



- Very safe and energy efficient
- 18% of freight, 8% of passengers
- Inefficient use of railways due to old safety system

New Railway Applications

Evolution in road traffic:

- Electric vehicles
- Connected and autonomous driving



- Platooning



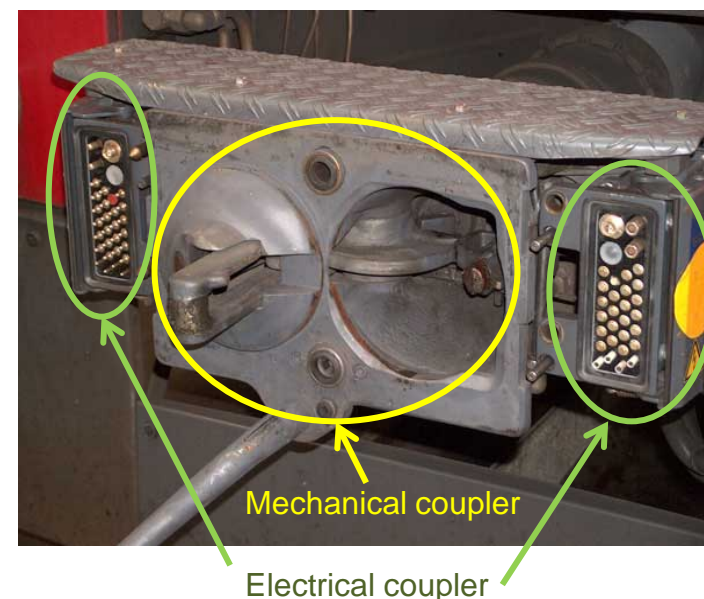
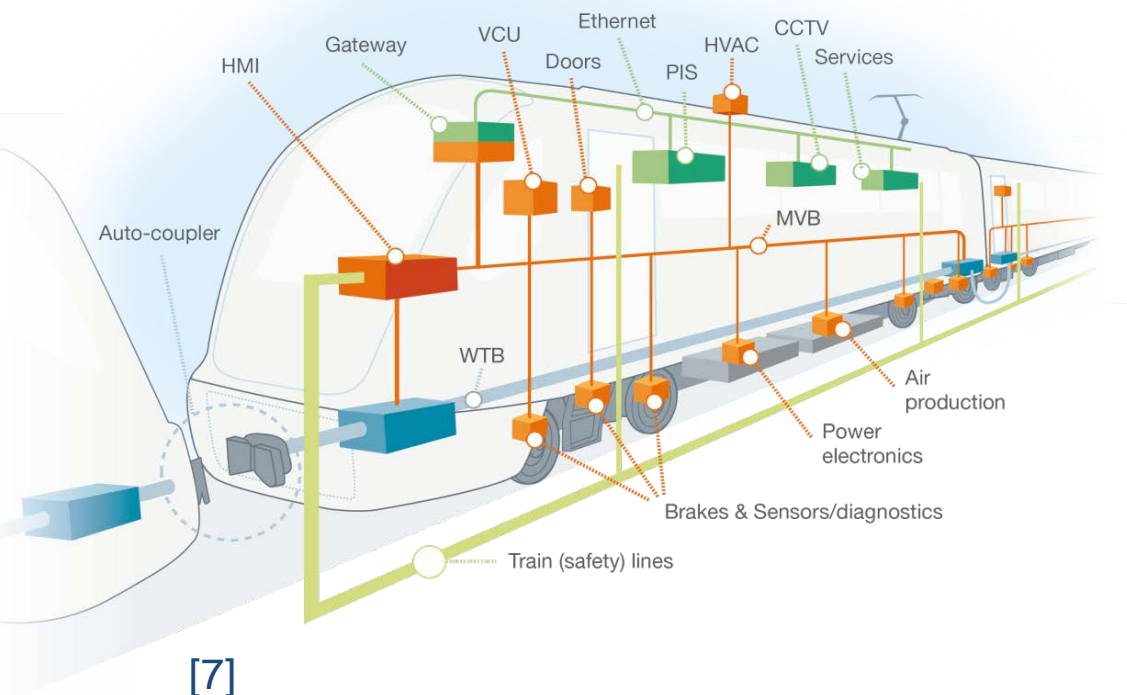
Evolution in railways:

European Rail Traffic Management System (ERTMS)

- GSM-R
- European Train Control System (ETCS)
 - Level 2:
fixed block, no lineside signals, speed and track information continuously communicated with GSM-R into cockpit
 - Status:
Swiss Railways for all train lines above 160 km/h, DB only Erfurt-Leipzig, Spain Madrid-Barcelona

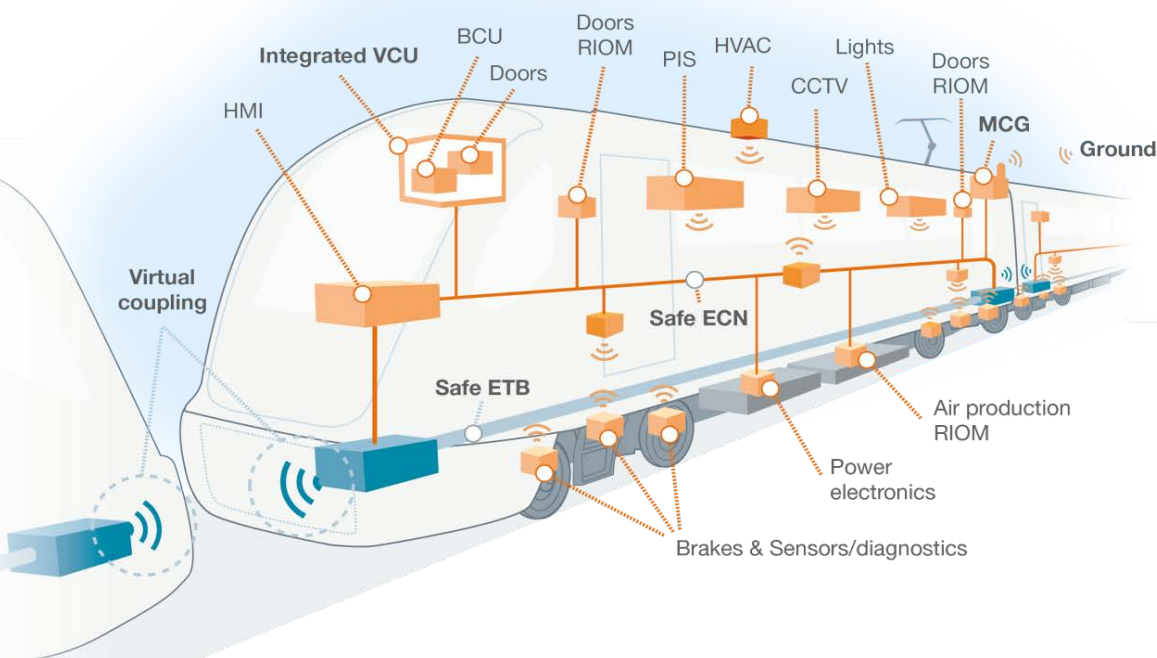
New Railway Applications

Wireless Train Control and Monitoring System (TCMS)



New Railway Applications

Wireless Train Control and Monitoring System (TCMS)



[7]

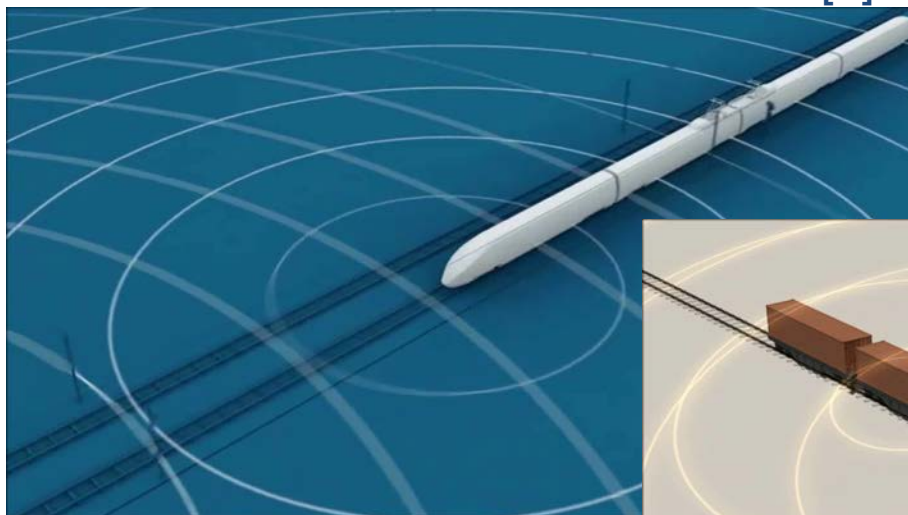
New Railway Applications

Autonomous trains: Collision avoidance [8]



New Railway Applications

Autonomous trains: Collision avoidance [8]

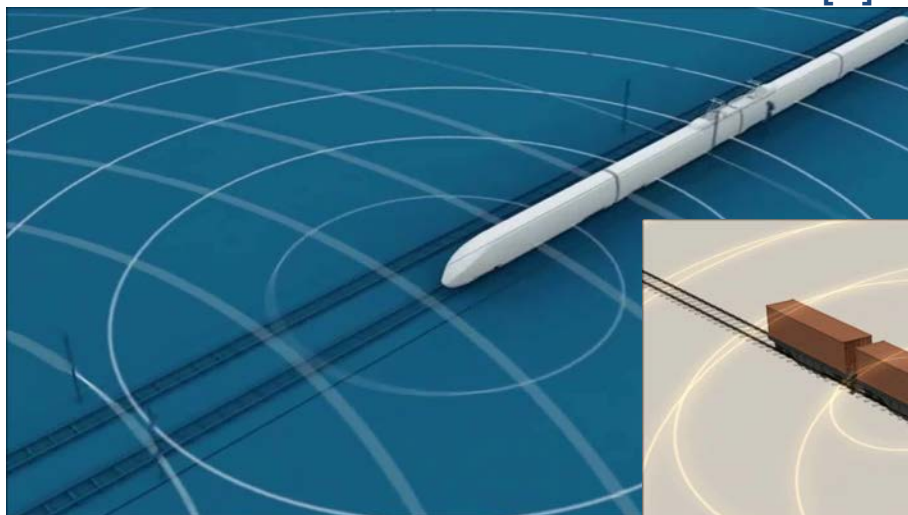


Remote control:
Automatic coupling [9]

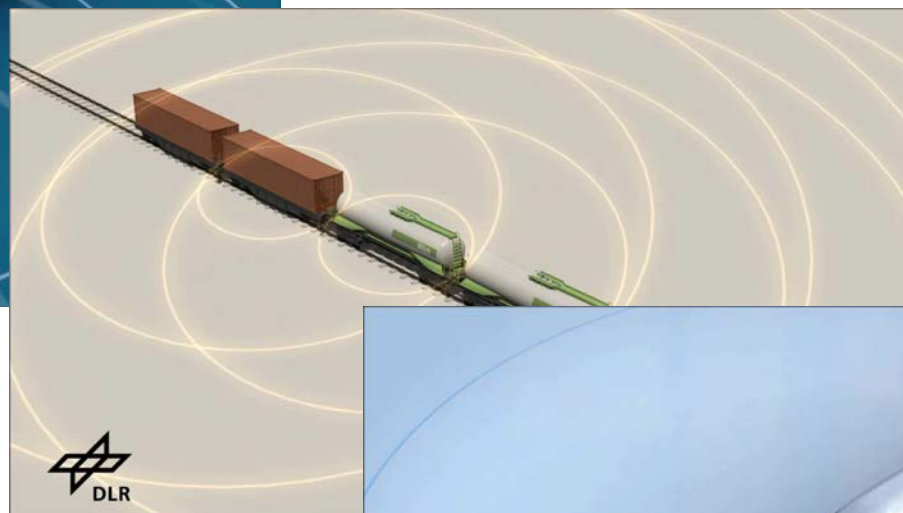


New Railway Applications

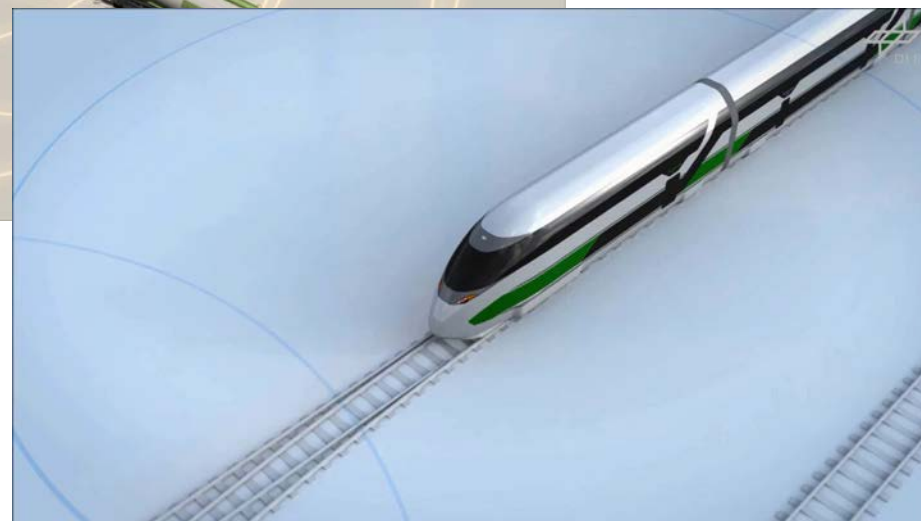
Autonomous trains: Collision avoidance [8]



Remote control:
Automatic coupling [9]



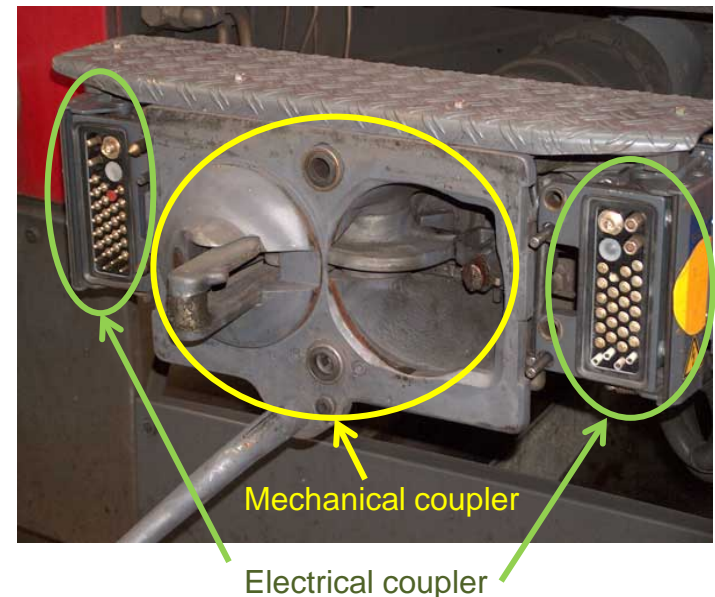
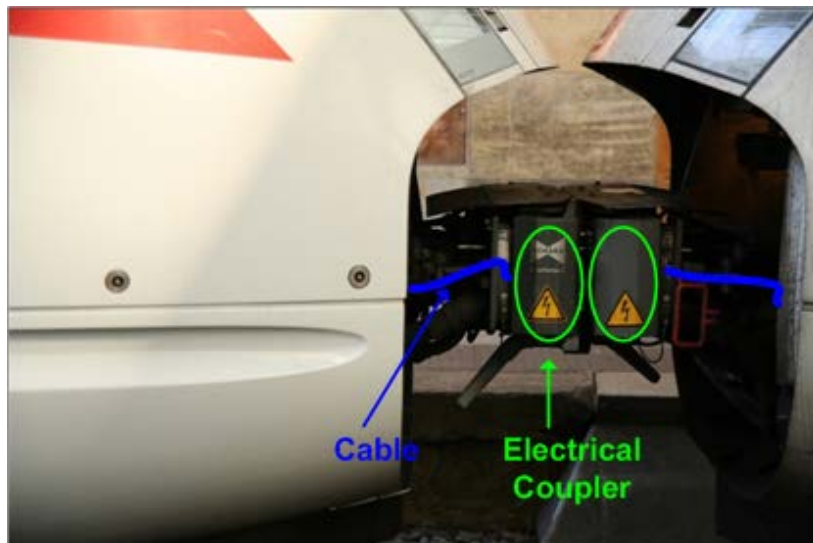
Virtual
coupling:
Platooning [10]



Ultra-reliable low-latency communications and
ranging essential for enabling new safety
relevant railway applications

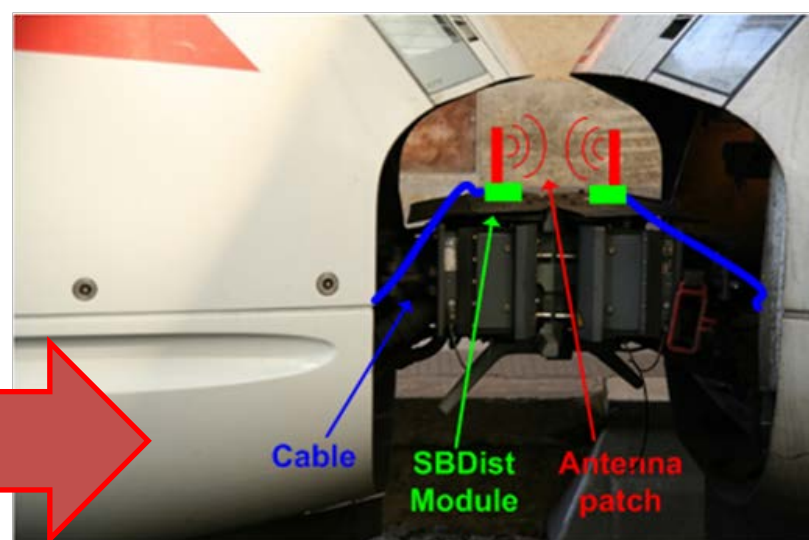
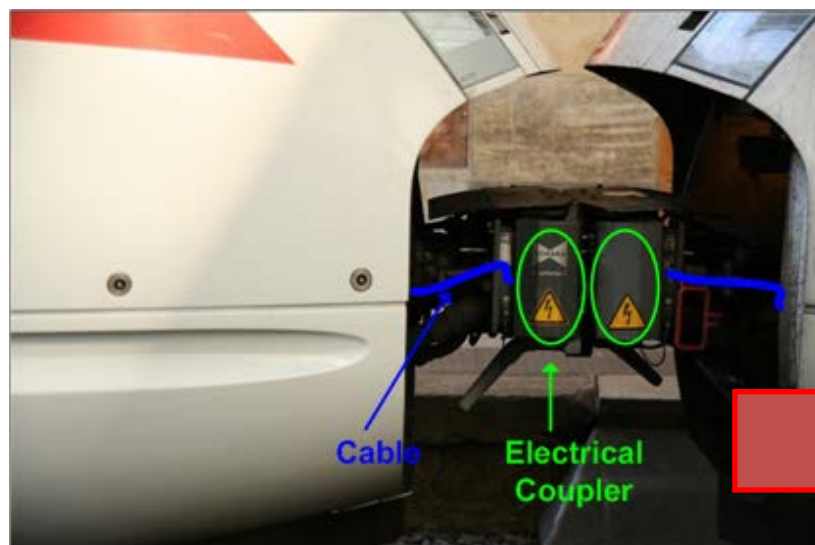
Automatic Coupling [9]

- Reliable wireless communication in industry
- Provide URLL communications and ranging (URLLC&R) over short distances
- Monitor train integrity, i.e. distance between coupled train sets and wagons

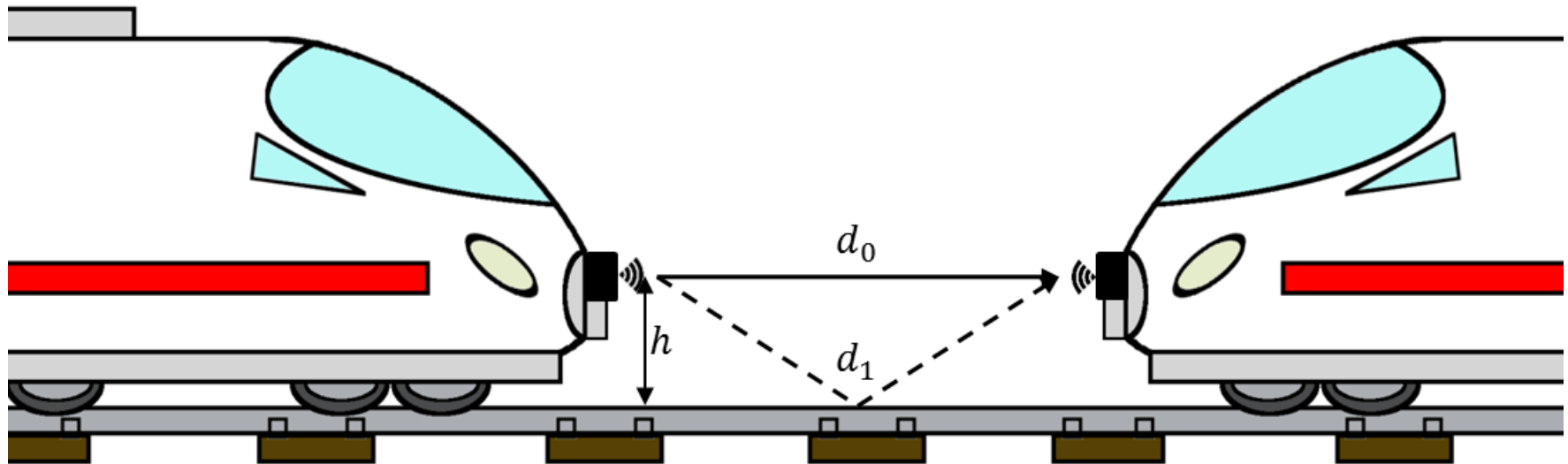


Automatic Coupling [9]

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Automatic Coupling: Channel & System Model



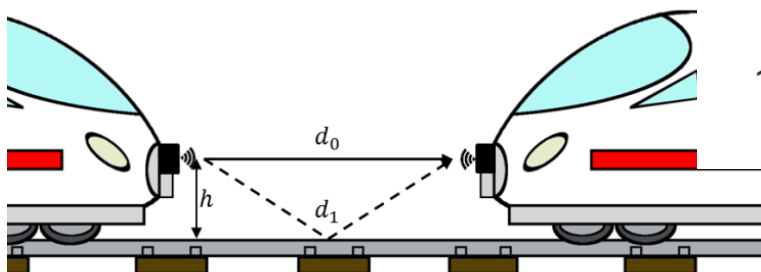
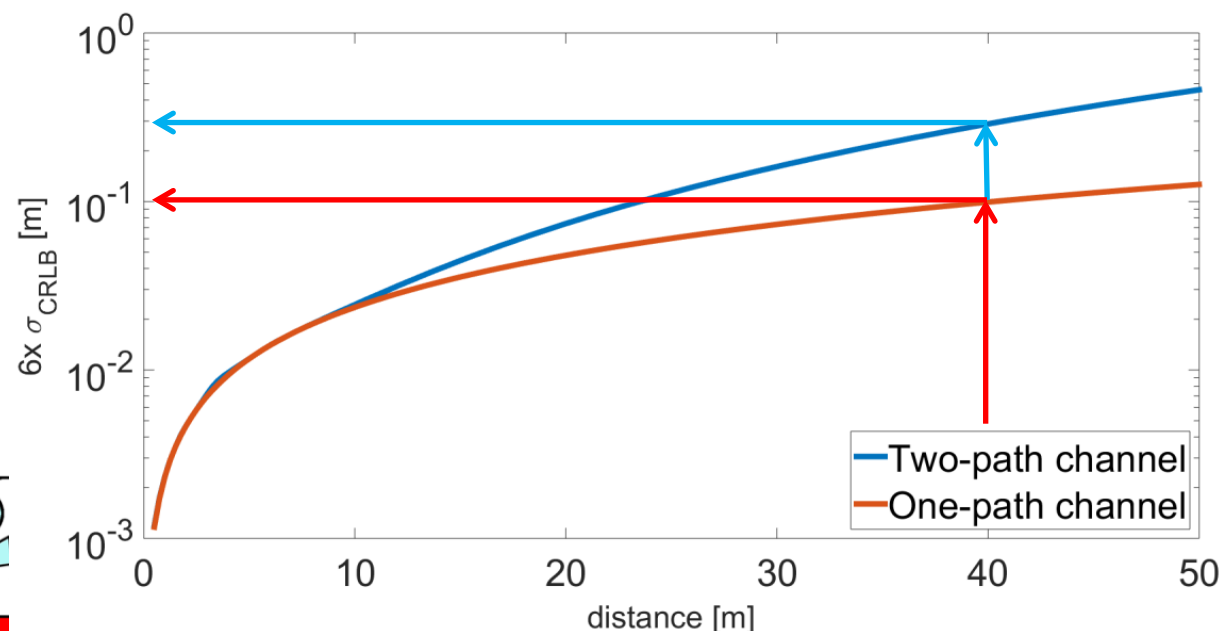
Two-path channel model:
$$h_c(t) = a_0 \delta(t - \tau_0) e^{-\varphi(\tau_0)} + a_1 \delta(t - \tau_1) e^{-\varphi(\tau_1)}$$

System model:
$$y[n] = a_0 s \left[n - \frac{\tau_0}{T_s} \right] e^{-\varphi(\tau_0)} + a_1 s \left[n - \frac{\tau_1}{T_s} \right] e^{-\varphi(\tau_1)}$$

Automatic Coupling: Cramér Rao Lower Bounds

Cramér Rao Lower Bound (CRLB) versus distance between two transmitters

6σ [m] \rightarrow reliability of 99.9997% for ranging (beyond 5G URLLC&R)

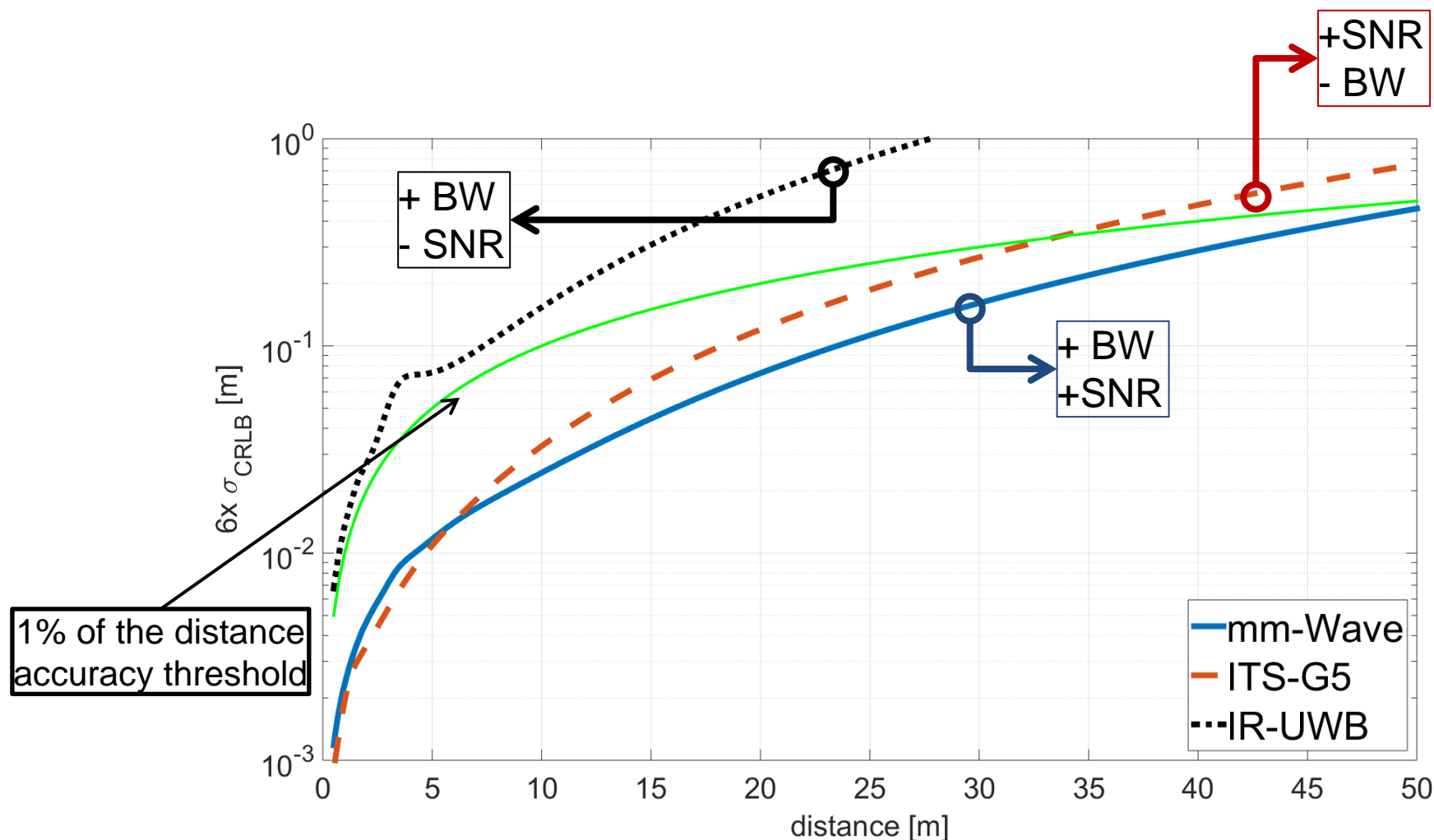


Automatic Coupling: CRLB Results

Comparison of three wireless systems:

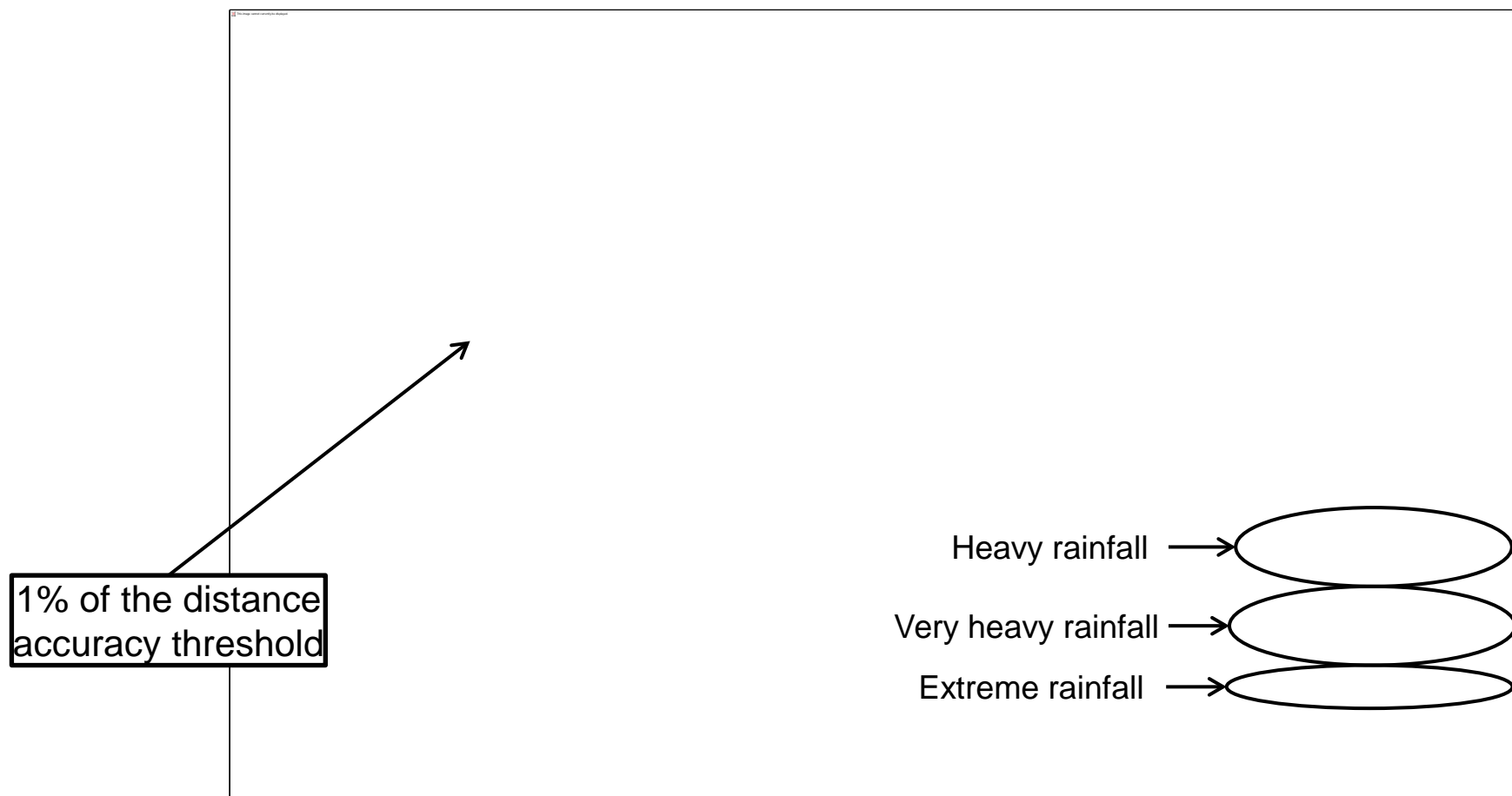
	mmWave	ITS-G5	IR-UWB
Center Frequency	60 GHz	5.9 GHz	6 GHz
EIRP	31 dBm	31 dBm	-14.5 dBm
Pulse shape	Raised Cosine	OFDM	Second-order Gaussian monocycle
BW	500 MHz	10 MHz	500 MHz
Sampling period	0.2 nsec	10 nsec	0.2 nsec
Number of Observed samples	500 k	10 k	500 k
Height from ground	0.5 m		
Distance between nodes	From 0.5 to 50 m		

Automatic Coupling: CRLB Results



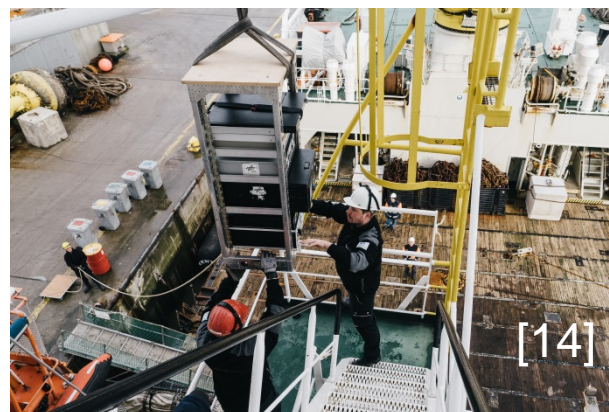
Automatic Coupling: CRLB Results

Rain Effect

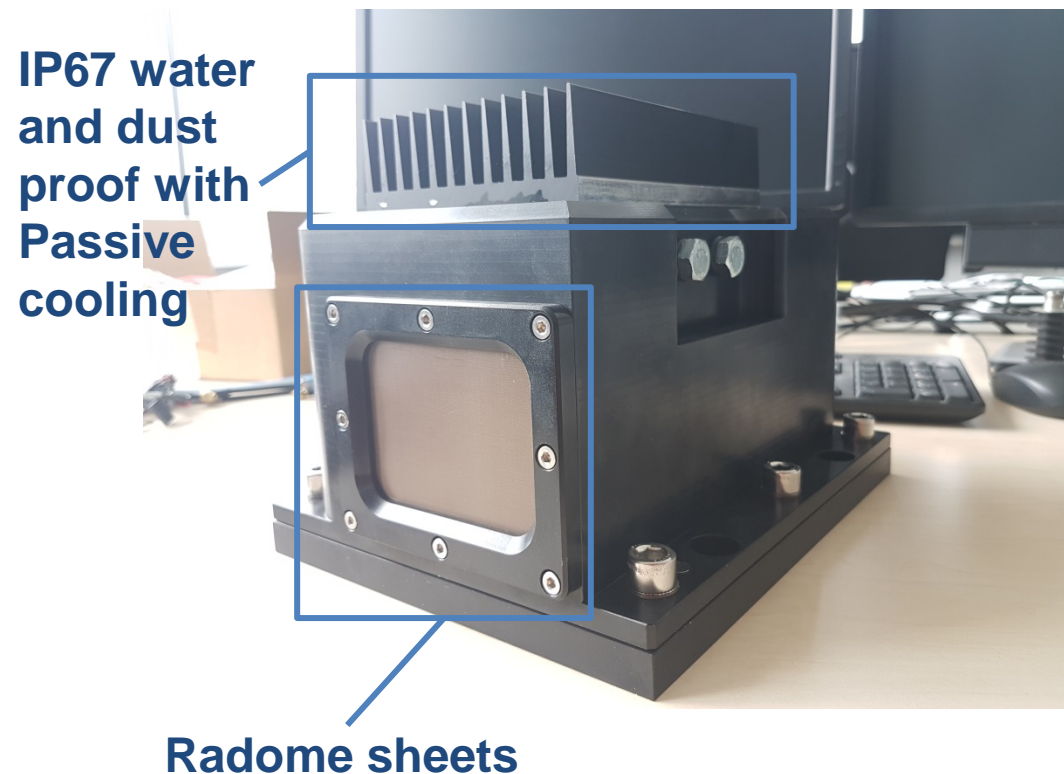


Automatic Coupling: Hardware Description – RUSK-DLR Channel Sounder

- Center frequency: up to 5.2 GHz
- Bandwidth: 120 MHz
- Signal period: 12.8 μ s
- Measurement time grid: 1.024 ms
- Max. Doppler frequency: ± 488 Hz
- Rubidium clocks: 10 MHz

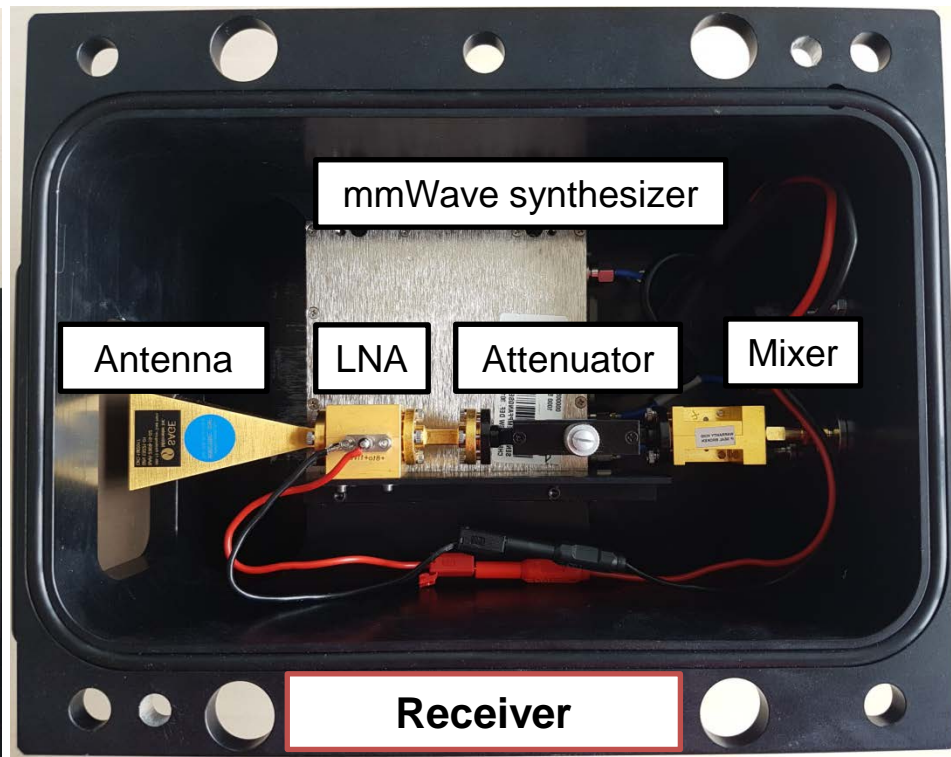
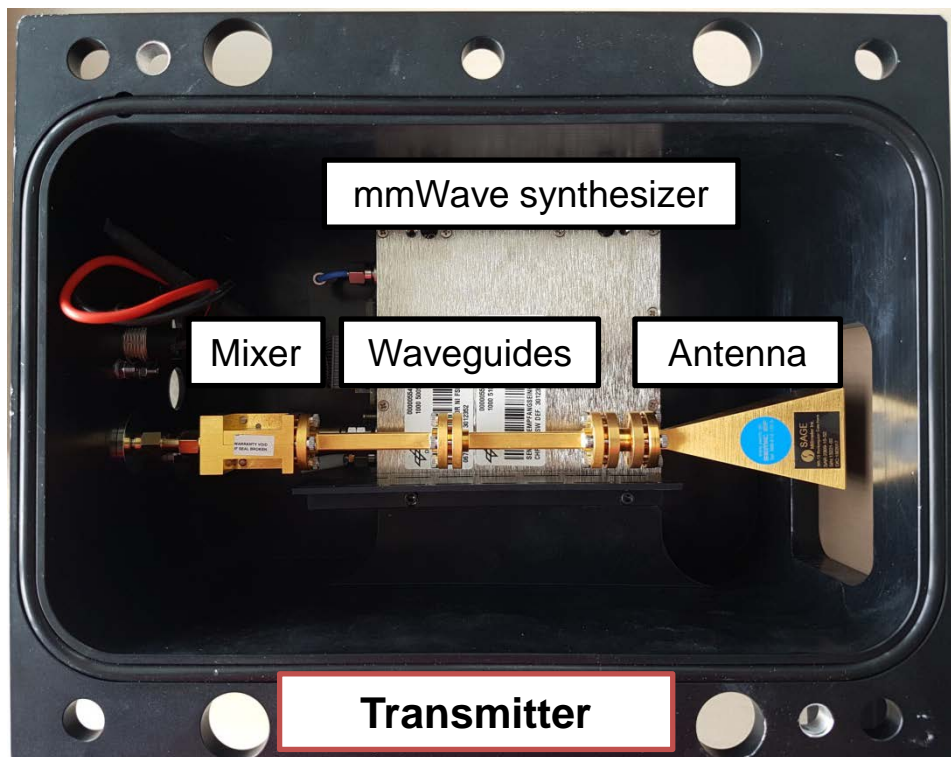


Automatic Coupling: Hardware Description – mmWave Frontend



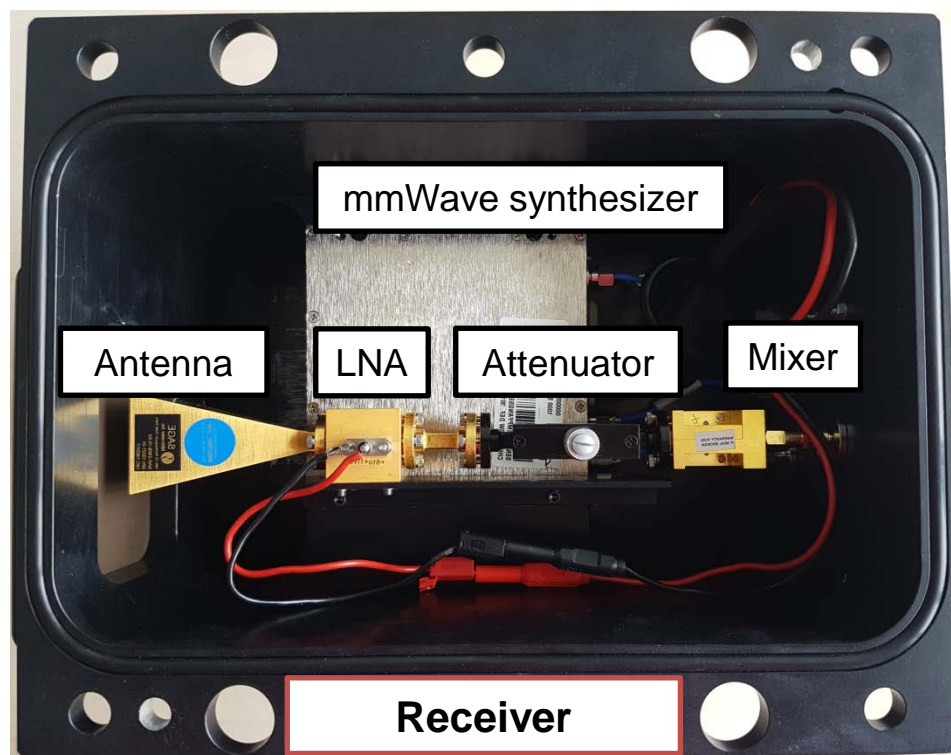
Connectors to DLR channel sounder

Automatic Coupling: Hardware Description – mmWave Frontend

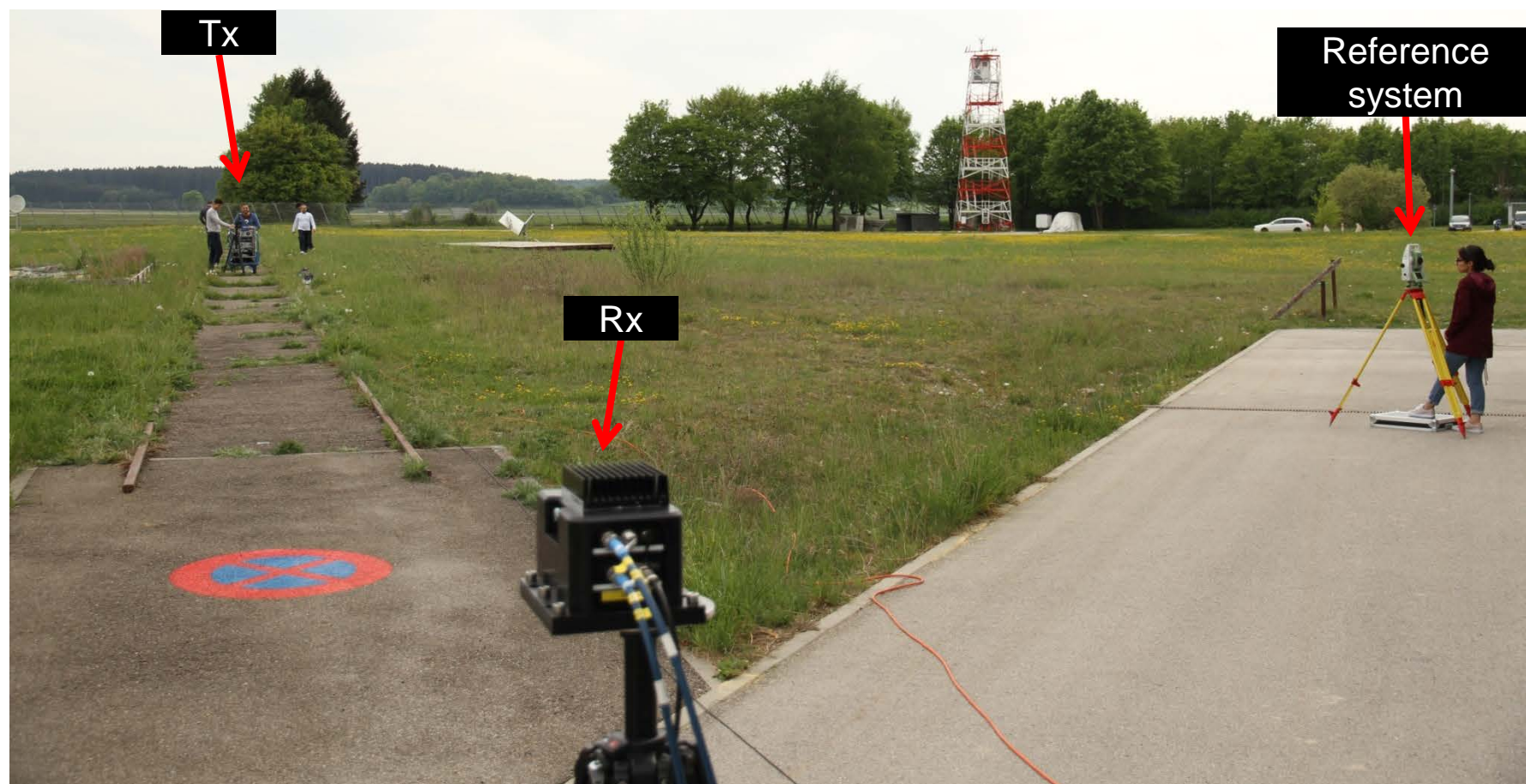


Automatic Coupling: Hardware Description – mmWave Frontend

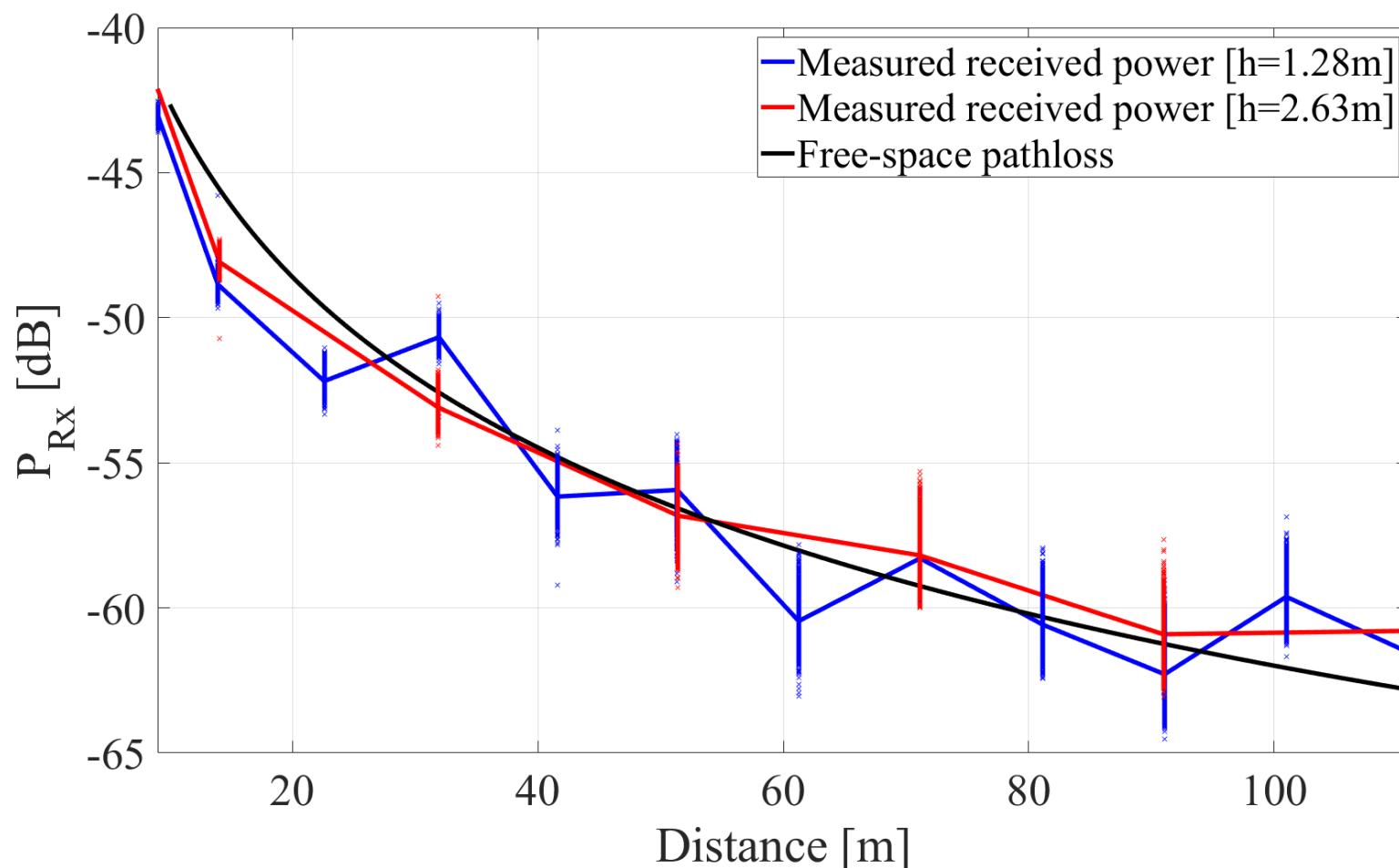
- mmWave synthesizer: Output frequency range 50 to 67 GHz
- Mixer: Waveguide up- and down-converters
- Attenuator: 0-30 dB waveguide variable attenuator
- LNA: 20 dB low noise amplifier with 3.5 dB noise figure
- Antenna: Directive rectangular horn antenna with 12° 3 dB beam width and 23 dB gain



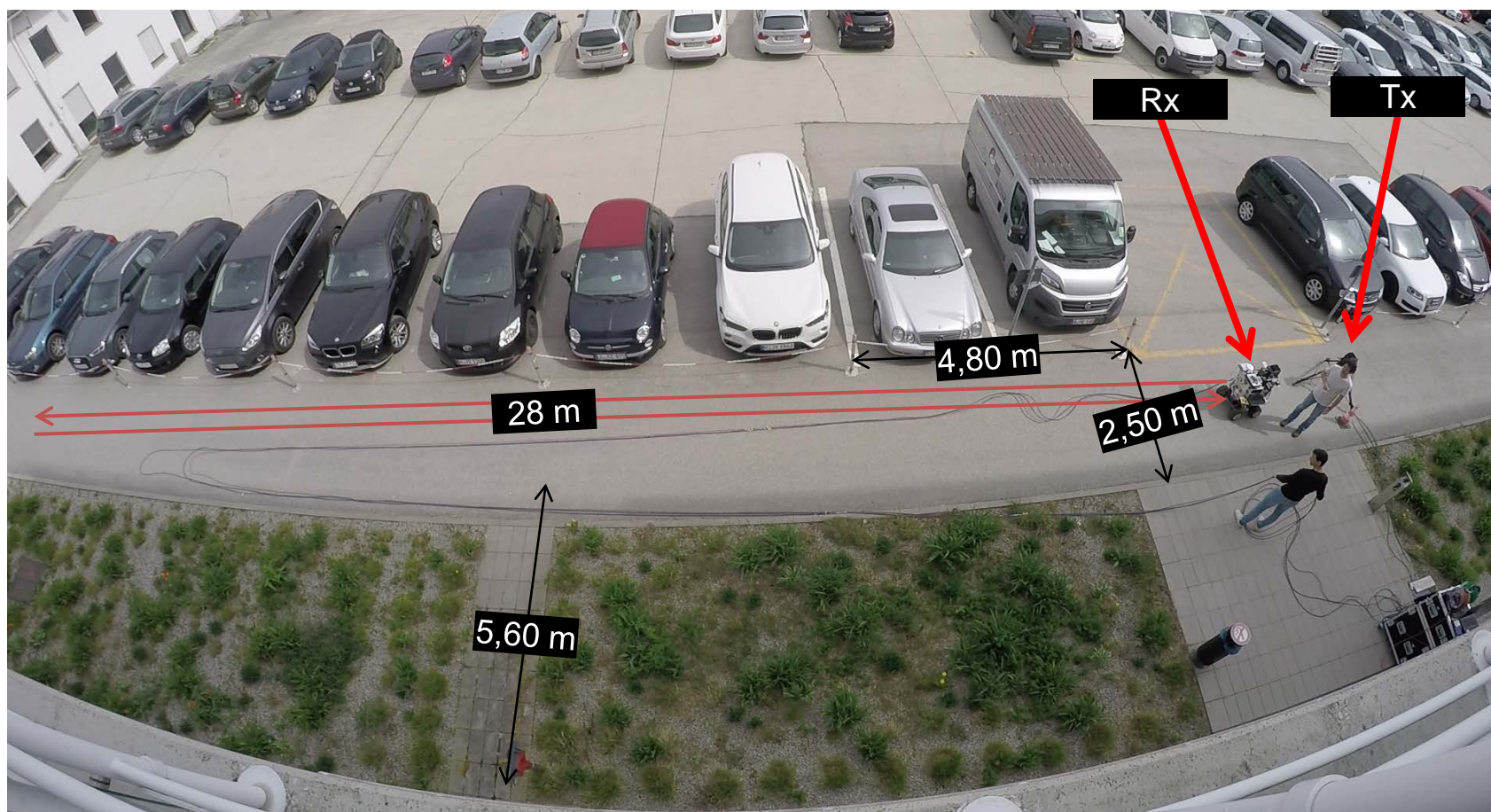
Automatic Coupling: Open field Measurements



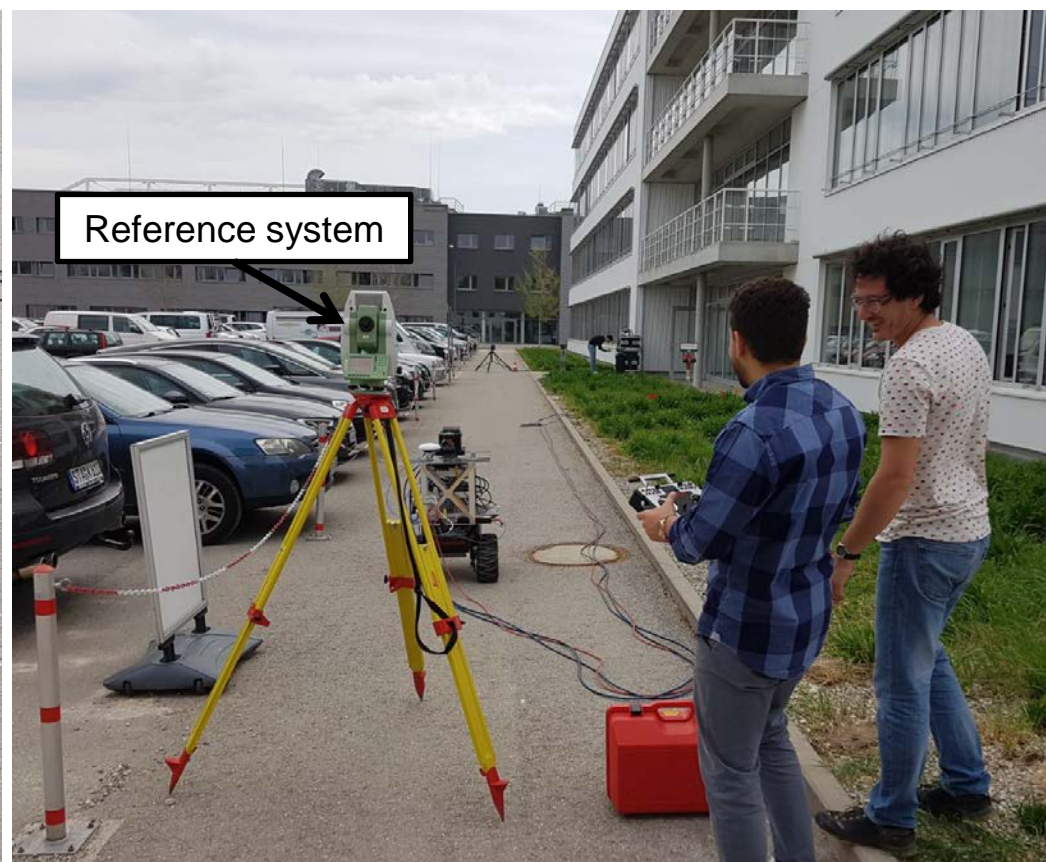
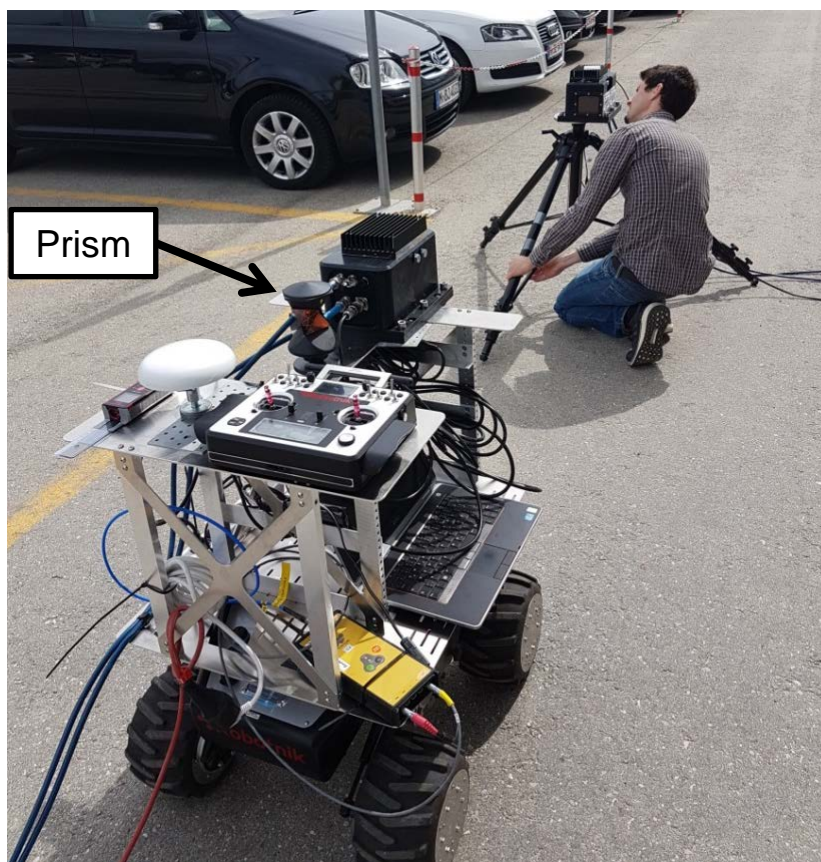
Automatic Coupling: Open field Measurements, First Results



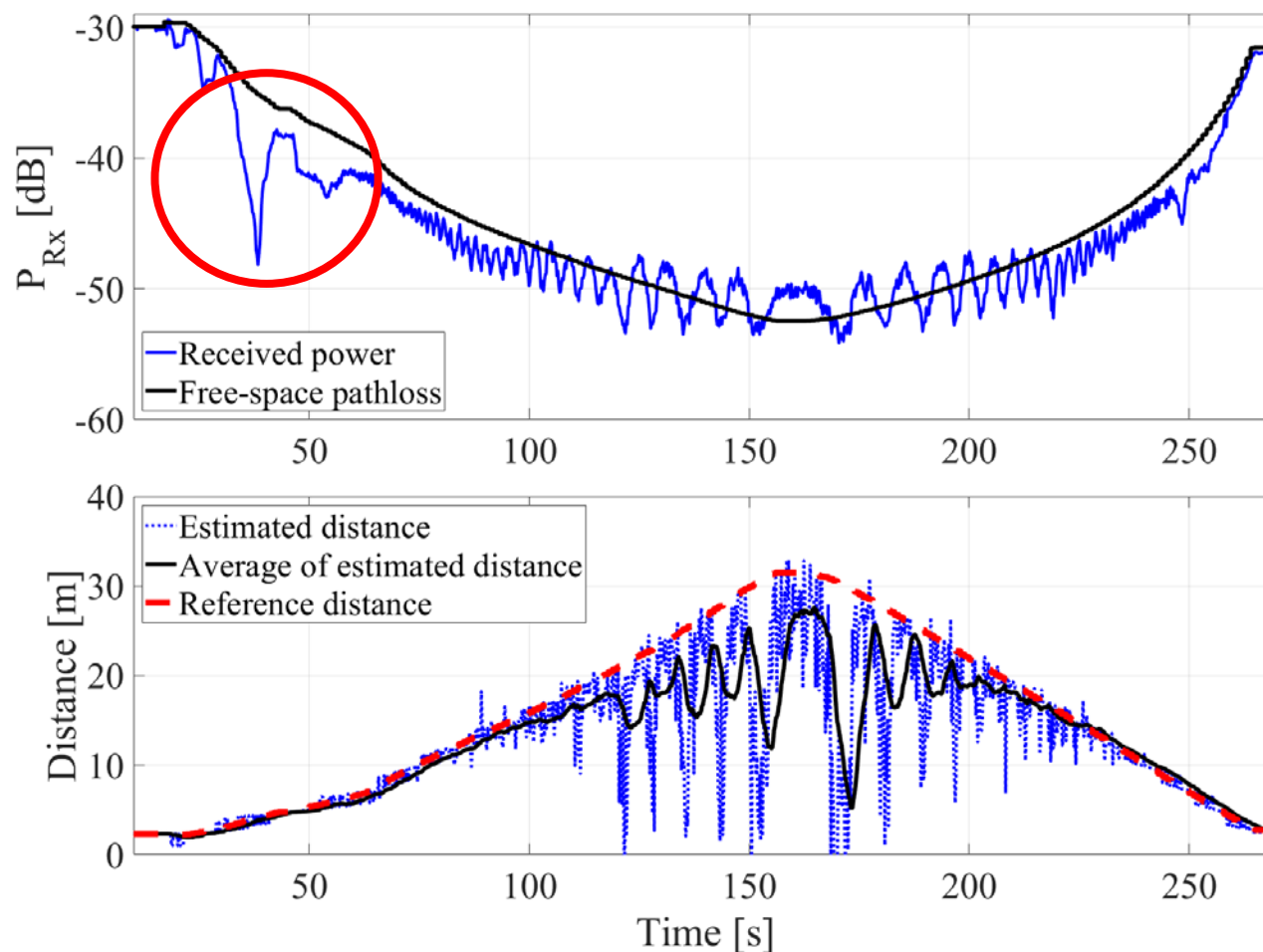
Automatic Coupling: Parking Lot, Dynamic Measurements



Automatic Coupling: Parking Lot, Dynamic Measurements

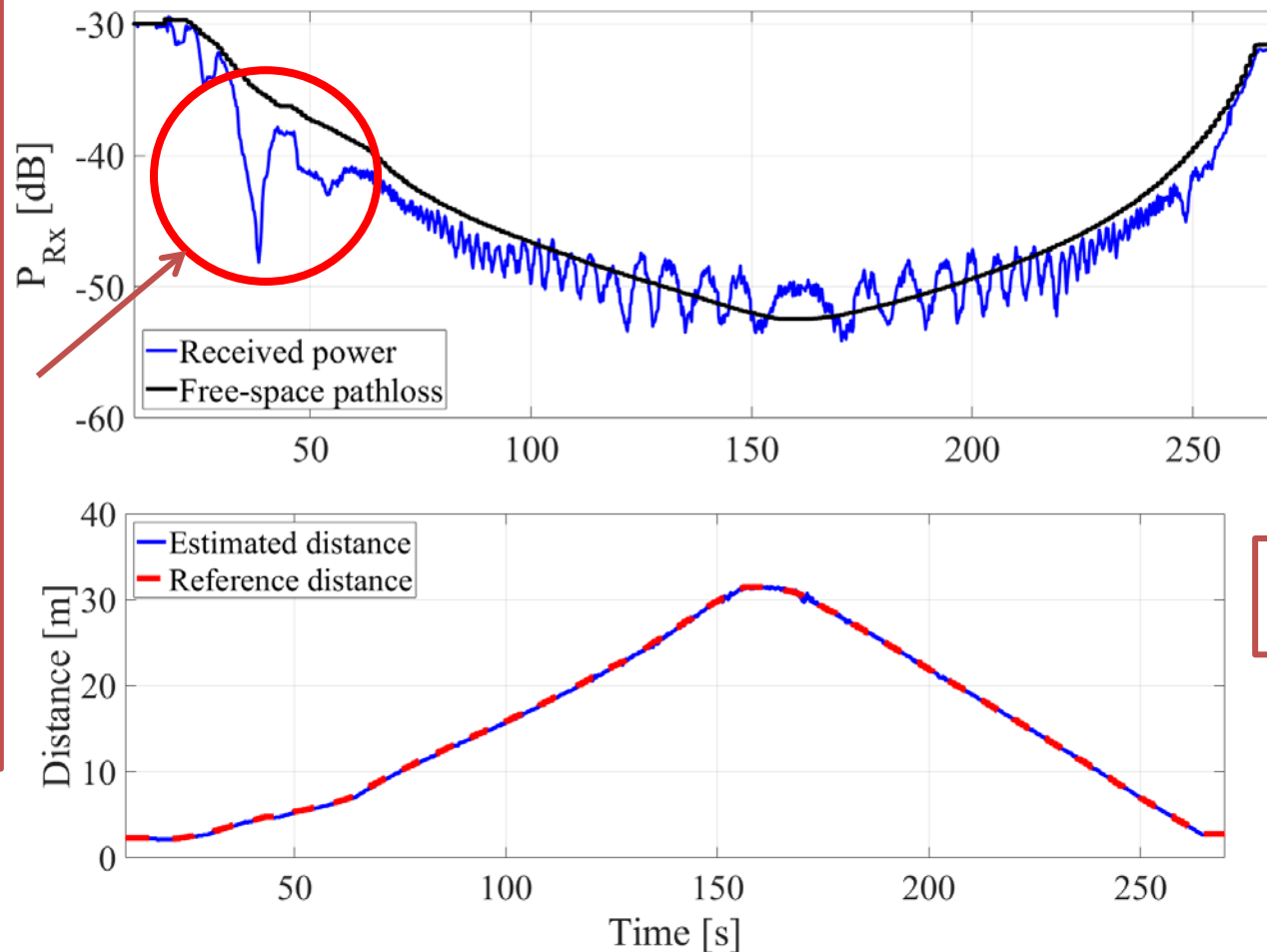


Automatic Coupling: Parking Lot, Dynamic Measurements, Preliminary Results



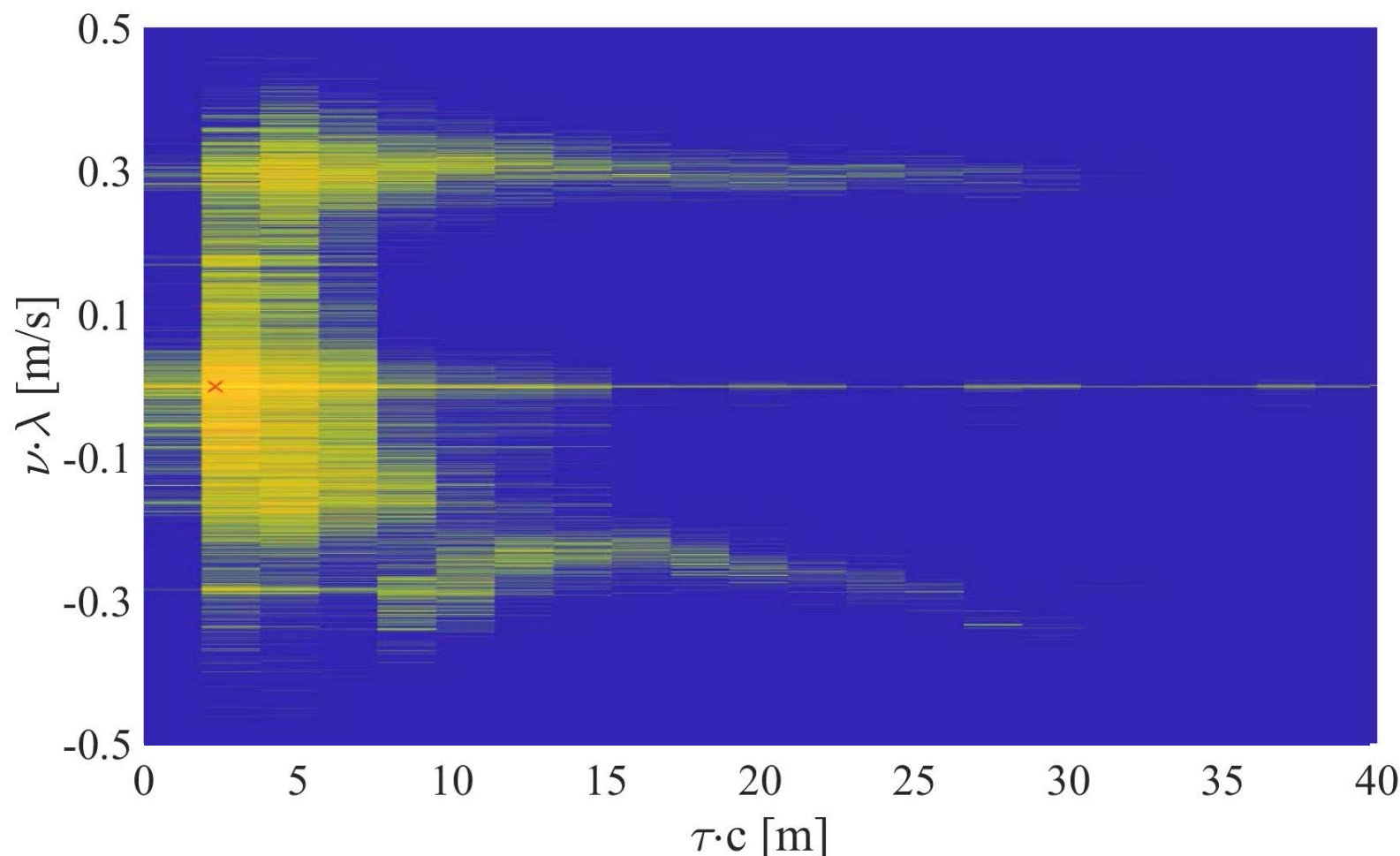
Automatic Coupling: Parking Lot, Dynamic Measurements, Preliminary Results

Received power drop due to misalignment

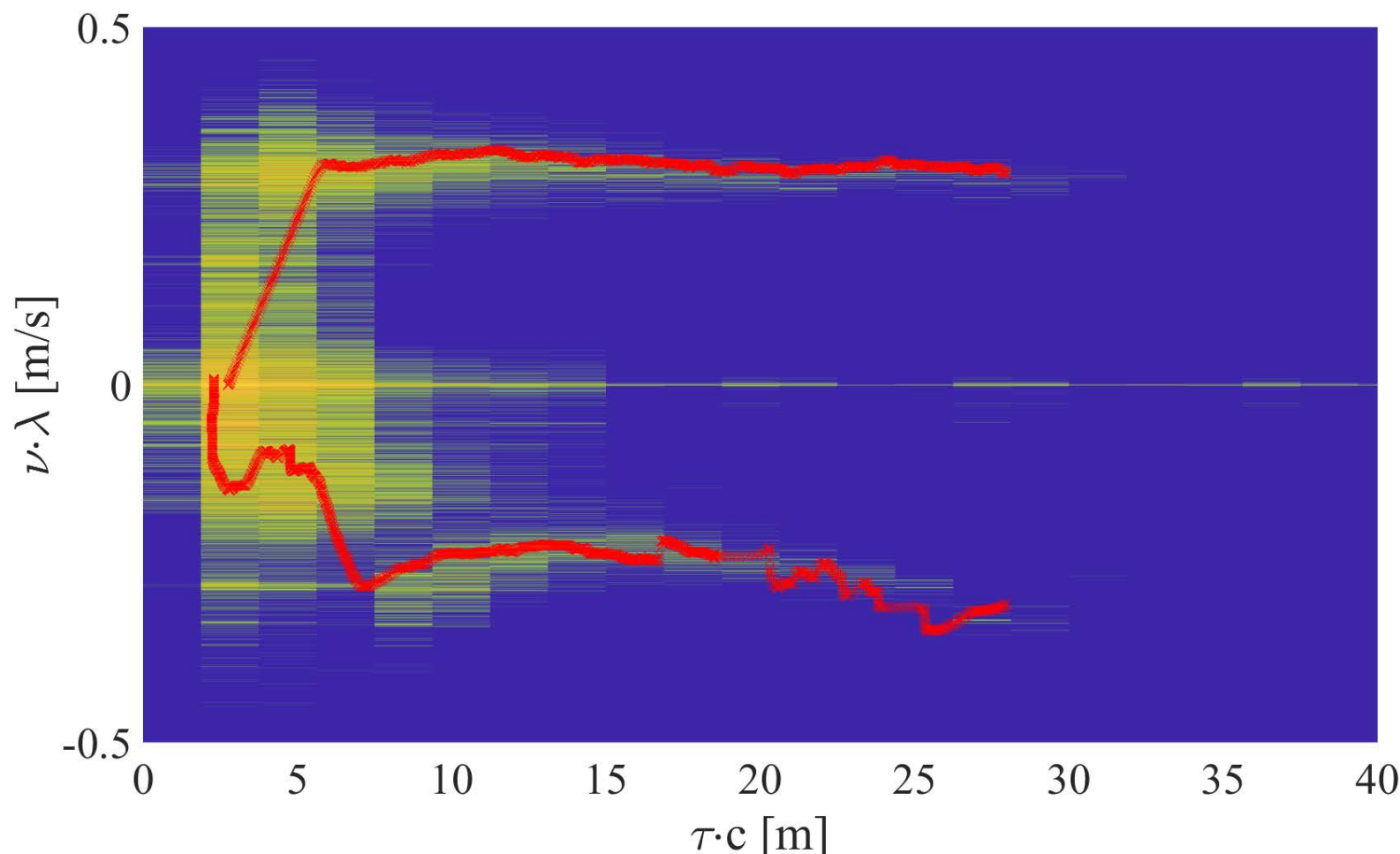


99% of errors < 0.3 m

Automatic Coupling: Parking Lot, Dynamic Measurements, Preliminary Results



Automatic Coupling: Parking Lot, Dynamic Measurements, Preliminary Results

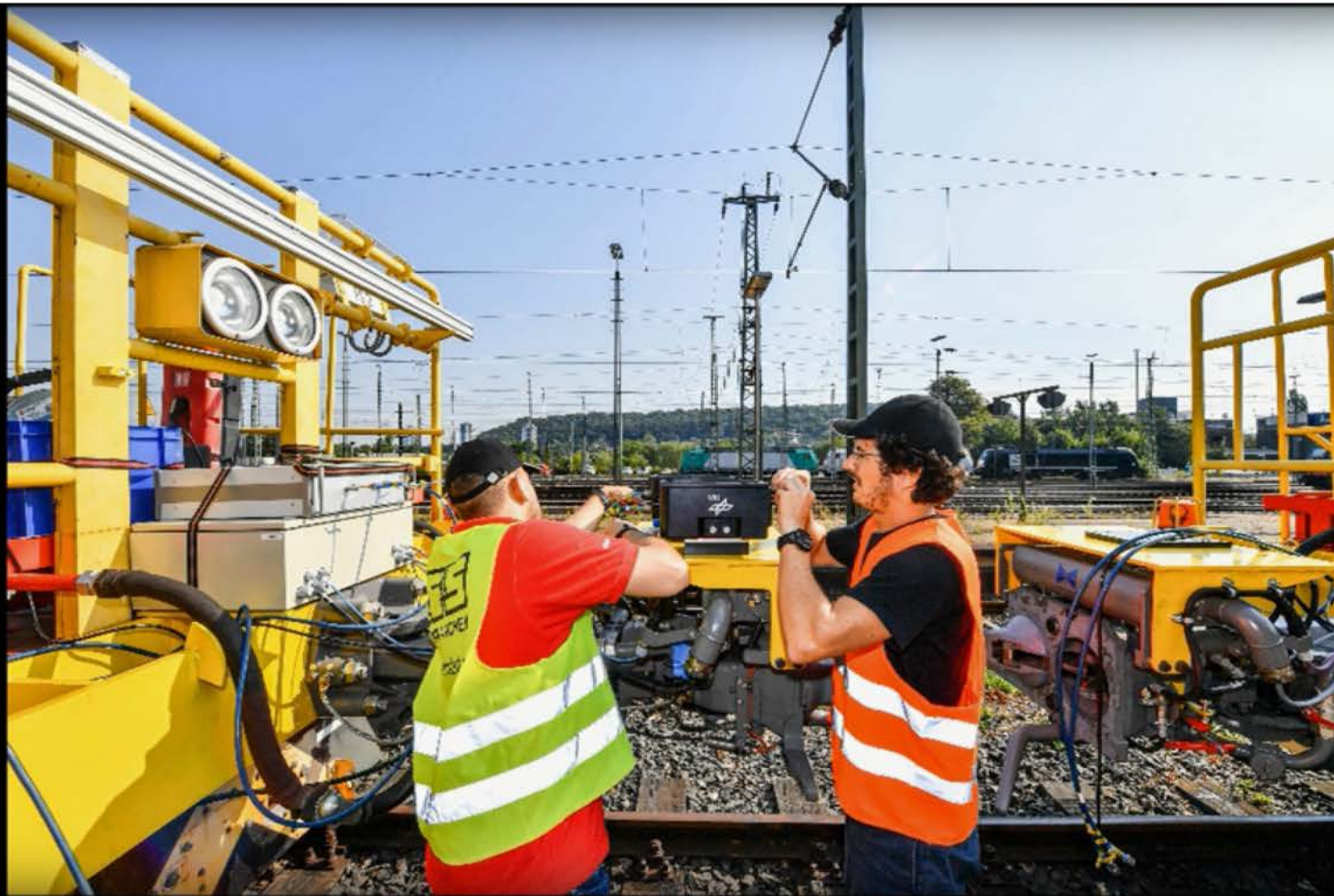


Automatic Coupling: Measurement Campaign

- Department of Rail Vehicles and Transport Systems (IFS) RWTH Aachen
- 300 m long track, 2 experimental trains



Automatic Coupling: Measurement Campaign



Automatic Coupling: Measurement Campaign

- 1 day of measurements (24 July)
- Up to three runs per environment (38 runs in total):
 - Open field
 - Platform
 - 1 metallic sheet
 - 2 metallic sheets
 - Bushes and trees
 - Train driving in a parallel track
- Up to 130 m separation between the trains
- Relative speed up to 5 km/h



mmWave frontends



Channel sounder



NI USRP



Vib. sensors

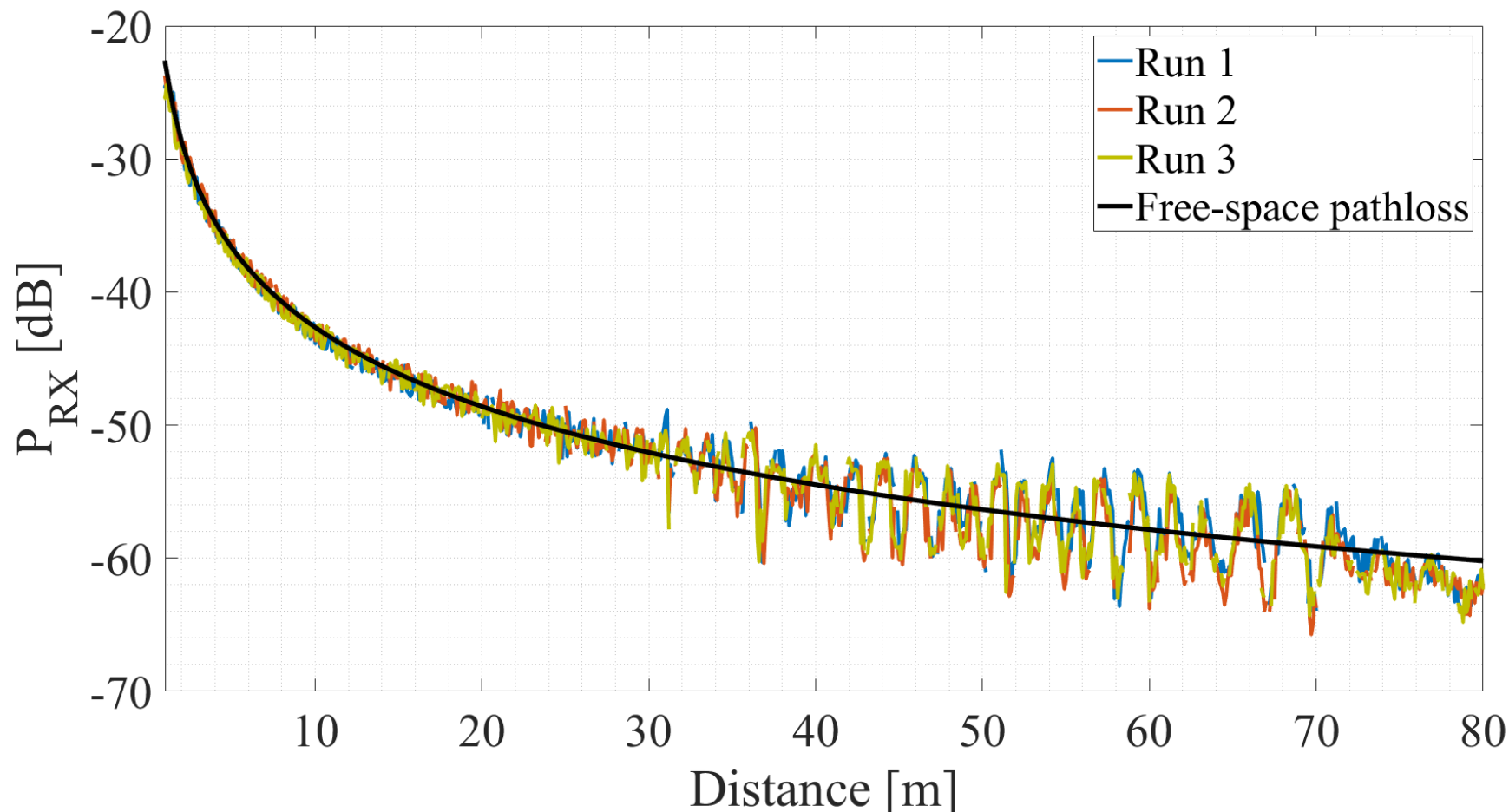


Reference systems



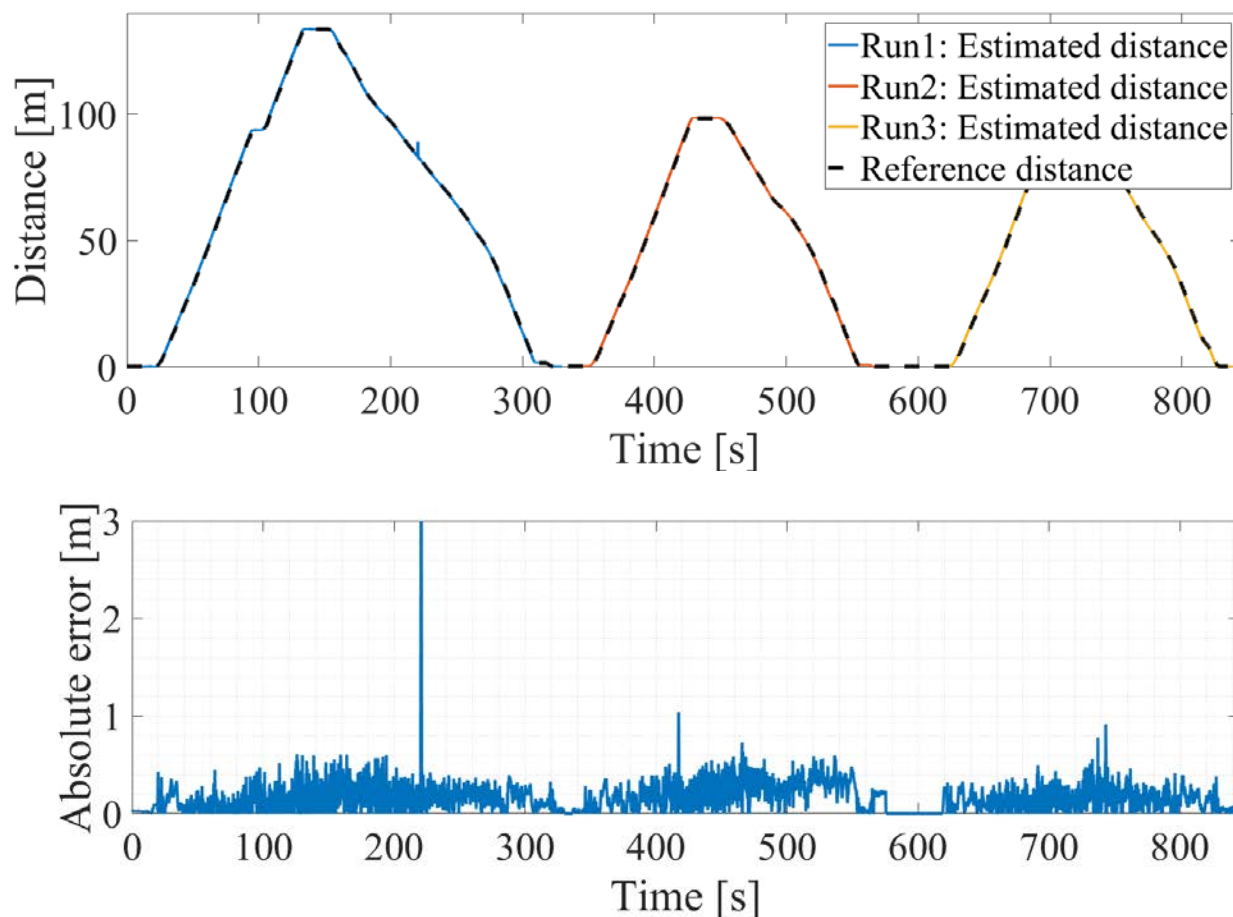
Automatic Coupling: Measurement Campaign

Measured Received Power – Open Field



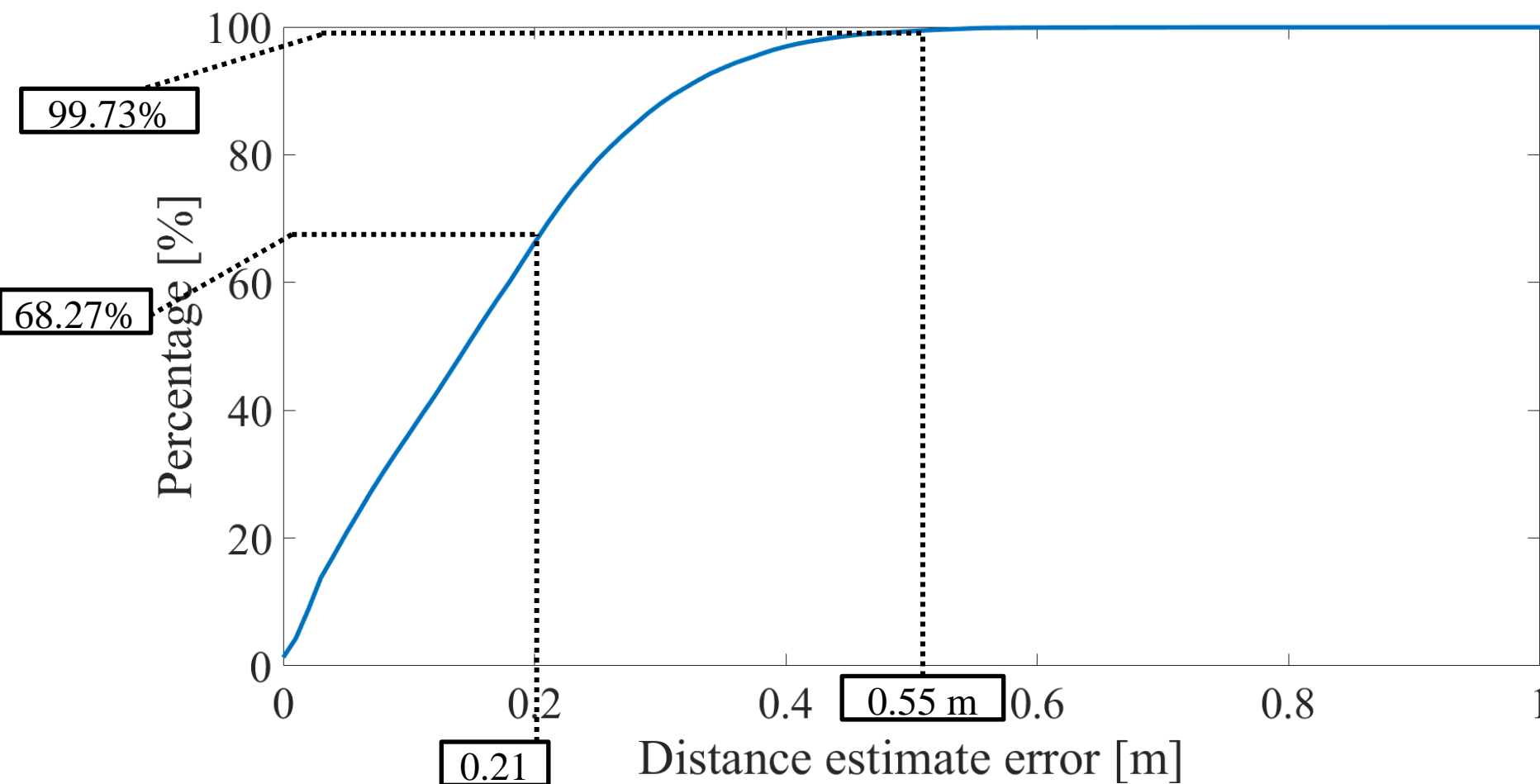
Automatic Coupling: Measurement Campaign

Measured Ranging Accuracy – Distance Estimation Error



Automatic Coupling: Measurement Campaign

Measured Ranging Accuracy –Errors CDF



Automatic Coupling: Measurement Campaign

Special Thanks to Team!

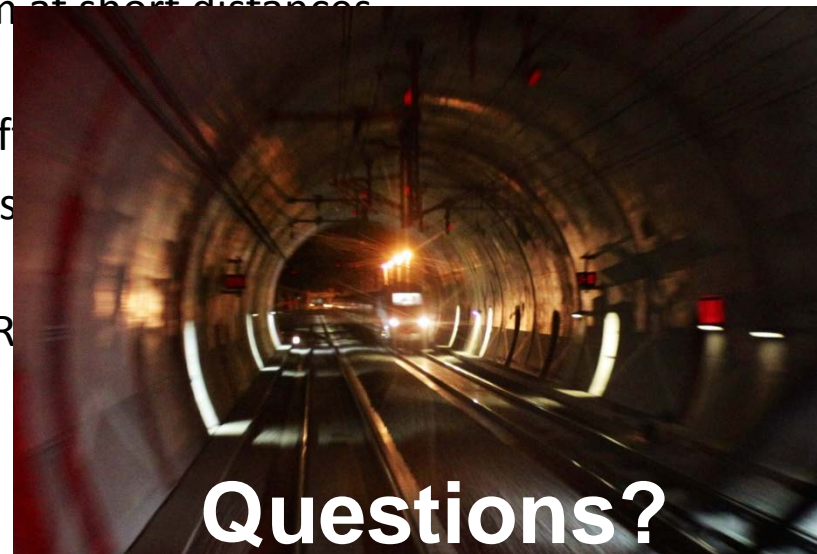


Summary and Conclusions

- mmWave channel sounder for dynamic measurements
 - Mean receive power ~ free space path loss & 15 dB above noise floor @ 110 m
 - Highly directive antennas: Multipath propagation
- Example automatic coupling
 - mmWave URLLC&R for automatic approach and train integrity monitoring
 - Best ranging accuracy for mmWave system at short distances, only slightly worse for severe rain
- New railway applications to further increase efficiency and flexibility
 - Wireless TCMS, autonomous trains & collision avoidance, automatic coupling, virtual coupling
 - 5G URLL communication and ranging (C&R) essential for enabling new safety relevant railway applications

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 - Wireless TCMS, autonomous trains & collision avoidance, automatic coupling, virtual coupling
 - 5G URLL communication and ranging (C&R) for relevant railway applications



Questions?

Papers & References

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